

§ 655.4

with the District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[33 FR 7570, May 22, 1968, as amended at 43 FR 10311, Mar. 10, 1978. Redesignated and amended at 55 FR 50510, Dec. 6, 1990]

§ 655.4 Territory of Guam.

Subpart A of this part does not apply to temporary employment in the Territory of Guam, and the Department of Labor does not certify to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) the temporary employment of non-immigrant aliens under H-2B visas in the Territory of Guam. Pursuant to INS regulations, that function is performed by the Governor of Guam, or the Governor's designated representative within the Territorial Government.

[56 FR 56875, Nov. 6, 1991]

Subpart B—Labor Certification Process for Temporary Agricultural Employment in the United States (H-2A Workers)

SOURCE: 52 FR 20507, June 1, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

§ 655.90 Scope and purpose of subpart B.

(a) *General.* This subpart sets out the procedures established by the Secretary of Labor to acquire information sufficient to make factual determinations of: (1) Whether there are sufficient able, willing, and qualified U.S. workers available to perform the temporary and seasonal agricultural employment for which an employer desires to import nonimmigrant foreign workers (H-2A workers); and (2) whether the employment of H-2A workers will adversely effect the wages and working conditions of workers in the U.S. similarly employed. Under the authority of the INA, the Secretary of Labor has promulgated the regulations in this subpart. This subpart sets forth the requirements and procedures applicable to requests for certification by employers seeking the services of temporary foreign workers in agriculture. This subpart provides the Secretary's methodology for the two-fold determination of availability of domestic workers and of any adverse effect

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which would be occasioned by the use of foreign workers, for particular temporary and seasonal agricultural jobs in the United States.

(b) *The statutory standard.* (1) A petitioner for H-2A workers must apply to the Secretary of Labor for a certification that, as stated in the INA:

(A) There are not sufficient workers who are able, willing, and qualified, and who will be available at the time and place needed, to perform the labor or services involved in the petition, and

(B) The employment of the alien in such labor or services will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers in the United States similarly employed.

(2) Section 216(b) of the INA further requires that the Secretary may not issue a certification if the conditions regarding U.S. worker availability and adverse effect are not met, and may not issue a certification if, as stated in the INA:

(1) There is a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute which, under the regulations, precludes such certification.

(2)(A) The employer during the previous two-year period employed H-2A workers and the Secretary has determined, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, that the employer at any time during that period substantially violated a material term or condition of the labor certification with respect to the employment of domestic or non-immigrant workers.

(B) No employer may be denied certification under subparagraph (A) for more than three years for any violation described in such subparagraph.

(3) The employer has not provided the Secretary with satisfactory assurances that if the employment for which the certification is sought is not covered by State workers' compensation law, the employer will provide, at no cost to the worker, insurance covering injury and disease arising out of and in the course of the worker's employment which will provide benefits at least equal to those provided under the State workers' compensation law for comparable employment.

(4) The Secretary determines that the employer has not made positive recruitment efforts within a multistate region of traditional or expected labor supply where the Secretary finds that there are a significant number of qualified United States workers who, if recruited, would be willing to make themselves available for work at the time and place needed. Positive recruitment under this paragraph is in addition to, and